

**John E. Frye**  
11 Sara Drive  
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**Before the  
Federal Communication Commission  
Washington, DC 20554**

**In the matter of  
RM-11699 regarding encryption**

This commenter has held the amateur call **N1OTY** in excess of twenty (20) years. I am the Vice President of the New England Spectrum Management Council (NESMC), the Amateur Radio Relay League's (ARRL) recognized frequency coordinating body for the amateur service within the states of Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Maine. My comment is personal and does not purport to represent an official position of NESMC. In addition, I am retired with a full time public safety pension and benefits in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. My public safety career was split between time in law enforcement with the Norfolk County Sheriff's Department and in the fire/rescue service with the Town of Canton Fire Department. I attained promotion to the rank of Sergeant while employed by the Sheriff's Department. I attained Advanced Life Support (ALS) licensing from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts while employed with the Fire Department. All public safety positions were full time employment.

I have detailed both my amateur radio experience and my very significant public safety experience for the Commission in order to shed additional light and reason concerning this filing. I understand the many reasons for and against encryption that are held by the FCC, licensed amateur radio licensees and the many served agencies.

I wish to voice support for the comments of Martin D. Wade, N5PZJ, of Galliano, Louisiana and I incorporate his comments entirely as a part of this filing. I believe that encryption of Part 97 communications can work properly, would not subvert the clear intent of most amateur communications and would greatly enhance the utility of amateur radio operators among served agencies. The challenge for the FCC is to find the right balance between open, clear communications and the occasional use of encrypted communications in support of public safety missions. I believe that Mr. Wade, N5PZJ, has outlined for the Commission the best way to proceed with RM-11699, if it is inclined to look on encryption favorably in this context and on a limited basis.

I urge the Commission to act favorably on RM-11699.